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COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
First session
Vienna, 21-30 April 1992
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of the Ministerial Meeting on the Creation of an Effective United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme:

   (a) Consideration of the experience of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control;

   (b) Organization and functioning of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

   (c) Consideration of proposed revisions to programme 29 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997;

   (d) Implementation of other recommendations and conclusions of the Ministerial Meeting.

4. Strengthening existing international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, including technical cooperation in developing countries, with special emphasis on combating organized crime.

5. Preparations for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders.

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6. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its first session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

By resolution 1992/1 of 6 February 1992, the Economic and Social Council decided to dissolve the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control and to establish the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in accordance with the Statement of Principles and Programme of Action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, paragraphs 23 to 26 of which contain the terms of reference of the Commission (General Assembly resolution 46/152, annex). In accordance with established practice for functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission may wish to elect five officers, that is, a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

The membership of the Commission for 1992 is reproduced in annex I to the present document.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

In resolution 1992/1, the Economic and Social Council adopted the Statement of Principles and Programme of Action, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 46/152.

Pursuant to paragraph 26 of the Statement of Principles, the Commission shall have the following functions:

(a) To provide policy guidance to the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice;

(b) To develop, monitor and review the implementation of the programme on the basis of a system of medium-term planning in accordance with the priority principles provided in paragraph 21 of the Statement;

(c) To facilitate and help to coordinate the activities of the interregional and regional institutes;

(d) To mobilize the support of Member States for the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme;

(e) To prepare the congresses and to consider suggestions regarding possible subjects for the programme of work as submitted by the congresses.

The provisional agenda contained herein has been approved by the Economic and Social Council in decision 1992/202 of 7 February 1992.

Proposals concerning the organization of work of the session appear in annex II to the present document.

The proceedings of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice are governed, mutatis mutandis, by the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

3. Implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of the Ministerial Meeting on the Creation of an Effective United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme

(a) Consideration of the experience of the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control;

(b) Organization and functioning of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

(c) Consideration of proposed revisions to programme 29 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997;

(d) Implementation of other recommendations and conclusions of the Ministerial Meeting.

In its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1992, the General Assembly took note with appreciation of the report of the Ministerial Meeting, approved the Statement of Principles and Programme of Action annexed to the resolution, and requested the Secretary-General to give a high level of priority to the activities of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme. The Assembly invited Member States to give their political and financial support and to take measures that would ensure the implementation of the provisions of the Statement of Principles as they relate to the strengthening of the programme in terms of its structure, content and priorities.

The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretary-General containing information on the proposed revisions to programme 29 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, intended to reflect the programmatic changes and new mandates resulting from the recommendations and conclusions of the Ministerial Meeting.

In addition, the Commission's attention is drawn to two progress reports of the Secretary-General on United Nations activities in crime prevention and criminal justice, including those of the United Nations interregional and regional institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders. The reports contain detailed information on both the regular budget and extrabudgetary activities undertaken by the Secretariat, providing also an overview of the work of the institutes during the past two years.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on proposed revisions to programme 29 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (E/CN.15/1992/CRP.1)

Progress report of the Secretary-General on United Nations activities in crime prevention and criminal justice, including detailed information on current programme budget and extrabudgetary activities of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs (E/CN.15/1992/2)

Progress report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and the United Nations regional institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice (E/CN.15/1992/3)

Background documentation

Report of the Ministerial Meeting on the Creation of an Effective United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, Paris, 21-23 November 1991 (A/46/703)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and other United Nations institutes for crime prevention and criminal justice (A/46/524)

Extracts from the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (A/45/6, programme 29)

Extracts from the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 (A/46/6/Rev.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (A/CONF.144/11)

Report of the Secretary-General on capital punishment (E/1990/38/Rev.1 and Corr.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary (A/CONF.144/19 and Corr.1)

Report prepared by the Secretariat on the Third United Nations Survey on Crime Trends, Operations of Criminal Justice Systems and Crime Prevention Strategies (A/CONF.144/6)

Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (A/CONF.144/4)

4. Strengthening existing international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, including technical cooperation in developing countries, with special emphasis on combating organized crime

In its resolution 45/123 of 14 December 1990, the General Assembly requested the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control to consider ways of strengthening international cooperation in combating organized crime, taking due account of the opinions of Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as opinions expressed at and decisions taken by the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, and to submit its views, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

The General Assembly, in resolution 45/121 of 14 December 1990, welcomed the instruments and resolutions adopted by the Eighth Congress, and invited Governments to be guided by them in the formulation of appropriate legislation and policy directives. It also invited the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its twelfth session to examine the implications of the resolutions and recommendations of the Eighth Congress for the programmes of the United Nations system and to make specific recommendations on their implementation in its report to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992.

In the same resolution, the General Assembly endorsed the decision of the Eighth Congress that priority attention should be given to specific practical measures to combat international crime over the forthcoming five-year period (see A/CONF.144/28/Rev.1, chap. I), bearing in mind the criteria set out in the relevant regulations and rules governing programme planning.

In the annex to General Assembly resolution 45/107 of 14 December 1990, it was noted that many countries lack adequate laws to deal with the emerging manifestations of transnational crime, and that the adoption and implementation of appropriate instruments and measures to prevent this type of criminality were urgently needed. In particular, the elaboration of standards for international assistance in respect of bank secrecy, facilitating the seizure and confiscation of proceeds in bank accounts derived from criminal acts, was called for.

In the Statement of Principles and Programme of Action (Assembly resolution 46/152, annex), Member States expressed the belief that the growing internationalization of crime must generate new and commensurate responses. Organized crime is exploiting the relaxation of border controls designed to foster legitimate trade and, hence, development. The incidence and scope of such crimes may increase further in the coming years unless sound preventive measures are taken. It is thus particularly important to anticipate events and to assist Member States in mounting suitable preventive and control strategies.

Pursuant to these mandates, a number of activities were undertaken by the Secretariat, including the organization of international meetings and seminars in cooperation with Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental

organizations, United Nations institutes and other institutes cooperating closely with the United Nations. Thus, the Commission will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on strengthening existing international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, together with a report on money laundering and other related issues, as well as the conclusions and recommendations of four expert meetings, namely: (a) the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Strategies to Deal with Transnational Crime; (b) the International Seminar on Organized Crime; (c) the International Expert Group Meeting for the Elaboration of a Model Treaty on the Transfer of Enforcement of Penal Sanctions; and (d) the Meeting of Experts for the Evaluation of Implementation of United Nations Norms and Guidelines in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on strengthening existing international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, including technical cooperation in developing countries, with special emphasis on combating organized crime (E/CN.15/1992/4)

Report of the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on Strategies to Deal with Transnational Crime, Smolenice, 27-31 May 1991 (E/CN.15/1992/4/Add.1)

Conclusions and recommendations of the International Seminar on Organized Crime, Suzdal, 21-26 October 1990 (E/CN.15/1992/4/Add.2)

Conclusions and recommendations of the International Expert Group Meeting for the Elaboration of a Model Treaty on the Transfer of Enforcement of Penal Sanctions, Siracusa, 3-8 December 1991 (E/CN.15/1992/4/Add.3)

Conclusions and recommendations of the Meeting of Experts for the Evaluation of Implementation of United Nations Norms and Guidelines, Vienna, 14-16 October 1991 (E/CN.15/1992/4/Add.4)

Report of the Secretary-General on money laundering and search, seizure and confiscation of the proceeds of crime (E/CN.15/1992/4/Add.5)

Background documentation

Report of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/CONF.144/28/Rev.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolutions and recommendations of the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/45/324)

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the conclusions of the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/45/629)

5. Preparations for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

By its resolution 1992/1, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the role and functions of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders. In accordance with the Statement of Principles and Programme of Action annexed to General Assembly resolution 46/152, the congresses shall provide a forum for the exchange of views, experiences in research, law and policy development between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts; the identification of emerging issues in crime prevention and criminal justice; and the provision of advice and comments to the Commission, including the submission of proposals. The Assembly also called for the implementation of specific arrangements, including the continuation of the holding of congresses every five years; the selection of precisely defined topics by the Commission to ensure a focused and productive agenda; the holding of regional preparatory meetings under the guidance of the Commission; and the organization of action-oriented workshops, as part of the congress programmes, with ancillary meetings associated with it.

To assist the Commission in its consideration of item 5, informal consultations on possible topics or issues to be discussed at the Ninth Congress have been initiated. These consultations have involved Government-appointed national correspondents, former Committee members, United Nations institutes and other experts and institutions cooperating closely with the Secretariat. The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on preparations for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, containing initial proposals.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on preparations for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (E/CN.15/1992/5)

6. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Commission will have before it the provisional agenda for its second session, together with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each agenda item and the legislative authority for their preparation.

In resolution 1979/41, the Economic and Social Council decided that the provisional agenda for its subsidiary bodies, together with the list of requested documentation, should be submitted to the Council for review, in order, inter alia, to establish greater consistency between the documentation of those bodies and the overall documentation requested by the Council and other subsidiary bodies and greater consistency between the requests for documentation and the medium-term plan and the programme budget.

The Council, in resolution 1989/114 on further measures for the implementation of its resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Economic and Social Council, urged its subsidiary bodies to implement fully Council resolution 1979/41 in submitting to the Council for consideration their provisional agendas together with the list of requested documentation, with a view to ensuring greater consistency in requests for documentation and improving reporting procedures. In this connection, it will be recalled that the Council has urged all its subsidiary bodies to exercise the utmost restraint in making requests of the Secretary-General for new reports and studies and to implement fully the decisions of the Council and the General Assembly with respect to the control and limitation of documentation (see Council resolutions 1981/83 and 1982/50).

In decision 1983/163, the Council requested the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda and documentation for the second session of the Commission

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its first session

The report of the Commission on its first session will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992.

Attention is drawn to Council resolution 1989/114, in which the Council requested its subsidiary bodies to highlight policy recommendations and decisions resulting from their deliberations for consideration and appropriate action by the Council.

Annex I

COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

(40 members)

First session, 21-30 April 1992, Vienna

	Term expires on 31 December
Australia	1994
Austria	1993
Bolivia	1994
Bulgaria	1994
Burkina Faso	1993
China	1994
Costa Rica	1993
Cuba	1993
Dominican Republic	1993
Finland	1993
France	1994
Gabon	1993
Germany	1993
Ghana	1993
Guinea-Bissau	1993
Hungary	1993
Indonesia	1994
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1994
Italy	1994
Japan	1993
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	1993
Madagascar	1994
Malawi	1993
Malaysia	1993
Nicaragua	1994
Nigeria	1994
Paraguay	1994
Peru	1994
Philippines	1994
Poland	1994
Republic of Korea	1994
Russian Federation	1993
Saudi Arabia	1993
Sierra Leone	1994
Sri Lanka	1993
Tunisia	1993
Uganda	1993
United States of America	1994
Uruguay	1994
Zaire	1993

Annex II

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. The proposed organization of work for the first session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, set out below, has been prepared pursuant to relevant decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. The purpose of this proposal is to facilitate the consideration of agenda items within the time available, taking into account the conference facilities allocated to the Commission.

2. The proposed timetable should be considered as purely indicative in character. Once the Commission completes the general discussion of an item before an indicated date, it may wish to move immediately to the next item on its work schedule.

3. Should the suggestions on the proposed organization of work be acceptable, and since the first part of the session would be devoted to the general discussion of the substantive agenda items, the Commission may wish, during the time allocated to informal consultations, to establish informal working groups to deal with specific proposals submitted under the items of its agenda. It should be noted that interpretation services for the meetings of the informal working groups may not be provided.

4. With regard to statements on the substantive agenda items, it is suggested that a 10-minute time-limit be set for the delivery of such statements.

5. Arrangements have been made to hold morning and afternoon meetings during the session. It is suggested that meetings be held from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Proposed organization of work

Tuesday, 21 April		Opening of the session
a.m.	Item 1	Election of officers
	Item 2	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
	Item 3	Implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of the Ministerial Meeting on the Creation of an Effective United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme
		Introduction and general discussion

Tuesday, 21 April		
p.m.	Item 3	(Continuation of general discussion)
5.30 p.m.		Closure of list of speakers on item 3
Wednesday, 22 April		
a.m.	Item 3	(Continuation of general discussion)
p.m.	Item 3	(Continuation and conclusion of general discussion)
Thursday, 23 April		
a.m.	Item 4	Strengthening existing international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, including technical cooperation in developing countries, with special emphasis on combating organized crime
12 noon		Closure of the list of speakers on item 4
p.m.	Item 4	(Continuation and conclusion of general discussion)
Friday, 24 April		
a.m.	Item 5	Preparations for the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders General discussion
12 noon		Closure of the list of speakers on item 5
p.m.	Item 5	(Continuation and conclusion of general discussion)
Monday, 27 April		
a.m. and p.m.	Items 3, 4 and 5	Informal consultations
Tuesday, 28 April		
a.m. and p.m.	Items 3, 4 and 5	Informal consultations
5 p.m.		Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 3, 4 and 5

Wednesday, 29 April		
a.m.	Item 3	Consideration of and action on draft proposals
p.m.	Items 4 and 5	Consideration of and action on draft proposals
Tuesday, 30 April		
a.m.		Action on all outstanding draft proposals
	Item 6	Consideration of the provisional agenda for the second session of the Commission
p.m.	Item 7	Adoption of the report of the Commission
		Closure of the session